Afforestation of coastal areas

2824. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government launched an Integrated Afforestation of Eco-Development Scheme for afforestation of coastal areas of the country, to form a shelterbelt with a view to reduce impact of cyclones;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) the total area proposed to be covered under the scheme;

(d) whether financial assistance is given to the States under the scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Coastal Shelterbelt Plantation Projects under Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme (IAEPS) envisage plantation in rows along the coastline to create a shelterbelt for checking soil erosion and sand ingress for protection of agricultural fields, homesteads and roads etc.

(c) to (e) Information is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

State-wise physical targets, financial allocation and amounts released to the State Governments for Coastal Shelterbelt Plantation projects under Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme during Ninth Plan

(Amount Rupees in lakhs and Area in Hectare)

S.No.	States	Ninth Plan Physical Target	Ninth Plan Financial Allocation	Amounts released as on 31.03.2002
1	Andhra Pradesh	2050	472.44	184.96
2	Gujarat	3900	415.00	415.00
3	Karnataka	200	55.58	42.65
4	Kerala	1000	408.59	264.85
5	Orissa	8000	1488.51	607.25
6	Pondicherry	448	90.32	20.12
7	Tamil Nadu	1000	308.70	184.55
8	West Bengal	150	30.02	23.82
	TOTAL :	16748	3269.16	1743.20

Increase in forest cover

2825. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey to monitor increase in forest cover in the country;

(b) if so, the details of increase, State-wise; and

(c) if not, whether Government are thinking seriously to develop forest cover, in view of increase in pollution and less rainfall in the country?